

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a pleated product, the method comprising:

providing a fabric comprising warp and weft, one of said warp and said weft being formed of polyester yarn constituting an easy-to-pleat yarn and the other of said warp and said weft being formed of a material constituting a hard-to-pleat yarn selected from a group consisting of rayon yarn, acrylic yarn, and ~~natural fabric~~ fiber yarn which is composed entirely of natural fibers;

folding said fabric along a first folding line, said first folding line being angled relative to said warp and said weft;

pleating said fabric up to said folding line in a passing direction of one of said warp and said weft; and

unfolding and washing said fabric.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein said fabric includes

a first fabric piece comprising a first warp and a first weft, one of said warp and said weft being formed of polyester yarn constituting an easy-to-pleat yarn and the other of said warp and said weft being formed of a material constituting a hard-to-pleat yarn selected from a group consisting of rayon yarn, acrylic yarn, and ~~natural fabric~~ fiber yarn which is composed entirely of natural fibers, and

a second fabric piece comprising a second warp and a second weft, one of said second warp and said second weft being formed of polyester yarn constituting an easy-to-pleat yarn and the other of said second warp and said second weft being formed of a material constituting a hard-to-pleat yarn selected from a group consisting of rayon yarn, acrylic yarn, and natural-fabric fiber yarn which is composed entirely of natural fibers; and

said first folding line is angled relative to each of said first warp, said second warp, said first weft, and said second weft.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

folding said fabric along a second folding line, said second folding line being angled relative to said warp and said weft;

wherein said pleating occurs after folding said fabric along said first folding line and folding said fabric along a second folding line.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

folding said fabric along a second folding line, said second folding line being angled relative to each of said first warp, said second warp, said first weft, and said second weft;

wherein said pleating occurs after folding said fabric along said first folding line and folding said fabric along a second folding line.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the first folding line is angled relative to said warp and said weft at an angle of 45 degrees.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said first folding line is angled relative to each of said first warp, said second warp, said first weft, and said second weft at an angle of 45 degrees.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein each of said first folding line and said second folding line is angled relative to said warp and said weft at an angle of 45 degrees.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein each of said first folding line and said second folding line is angled relative to each of said first warp, said second warp, said first weft, and said second weft at an angle of 45 degrees.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

folding said fabric along a second folding line, said second folding line being angled relative to said warp and said weft;

folding said fabric along a third folding line, said third folding line being angled relative to said warp and said weft;

wherein said pleating occurs after folding said fabric along said first folding line, folding said fabric along a second folding line, and folding said fabric along said third folding line.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

folding said fabric along a second folding line, said second folding line being angled relative to each of said first warp, said second warp, said first weft, and said second weft;

folding said fabric along a third folding line, said third folding line being angled relative to each of said first warp, said second warp, said first weft, and said second weft;

wherein said pleating occurs after folding said fabric along said first folding line, folding said fabric along a second folding line, and folding said fabric along said third folding line.

31-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein said ~~natural-fabric-~~fiber yarn is composed entirely of a material selected from a group consisting of cotton, hemp, or wool.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a pleated product, the method comprising:

providing a fabric comprising warp and weft, one of said warp and said weft being formed of polyester yarn and the other of said warp and said weft being formed of a material selected from a group consisting of rayon yarn, acrylic yarn, and ~~natural-fabric-~~fiber yarn which is composed entirely of natural fibers;

folding said fabric along a first folding line such that a first portion of said fabric is on a first side of first folding line and a second portion of said fabric is on a second side of said first folding line, said first folding line being angled relative to said warp and said weft; and

pleating said fabric up to said folding line in a passing direction of one of said warp and said weft such that one of said first portion and said second portion is pleated and the other of said first portion and said second portion is not pleated.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein said fabric includes

a first fabric piece comprising a first warp and a first weft, one of said warp and said weft being formed of polyester yarn and the other of said warp and said weft being formed of a material selected from a group consisting of rayon yarn, acrylic yarn, and natural-fabric-fiber yarn which is composed entirely of natural fibers, and

a second fabric piece comprising a second warp and a second weft, one of said second warp and said second weft being formed of polyester yarn and the other of said second warp and said second weft being formed of a material selected from a group consisting of rayon yarn, acrylic yarn, and natural-fabric-fiber yarn which is composed entirely of natural fibers; and

said first folding line is angled relative to each of said first warp, said second warp, said first weft, and said second weft.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising:

folding said fabric along a second folding line, said second folding line being angled relative to said warp and said weft;

wherein said pleating occurs after folding said fabric along said first folding line and folding said fabric along a second folding line.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, further comprising:

folding said fabric along a second folding line, said second folding line being angled relative to each of said first warp, said second warp, said first weft, and said second weft;

wherein said pleating occurs after folding said fabric along said first folding line and folding said fabric along a second folding line.

38-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein said natural ~~fabrie~~ fiber yarn is composed entirely of a material selected from a group consisting of cotton, hemp, or wool.